

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

January 4, 2007

Mr. Todd Martin Hanford Advisory Board 713 Jadwin Avenue Suite 4 Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Martin:

Thank you for the recommendation developed at the Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board Chairs' (EM SSAB) meeting in Santa Fe on September 8-9, 2006. I was pleased to learn of your positive reaction to the presentation by the Director of the Office of Groundwater and Soil Remediation.

Furthermore, your recommendation that public participation be included in the development and deployment of new remediation technologies at Department of Energy sites is a sound one that merits further discussion as how best to achieve that objective. The invitation to have the Office of Engineering and Technology participate in your next EM SSAB Chairs' meeting in Las Vegas in late March provides an excellent opportunity to begin such discussions.

Mr. Mark Gilbertson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Engineering and Technology, is planning to attend your next meeting and to fully discuss the activities of his office. If you have any further questions, please contact me or Ms. Melissa Nielson, Director of the Office of Public and Intergovernmental Accountability, at (202) 586-0356.

Sincerely,

Assistant Secretary for

Environmental Management

Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Boards Hanford Idaho

Nevada

Oak Ridge Northern New Mexico

Savannah River Paducah

Assistant Secretary James A. Rispoli EM-1/DOE-HQ Forrestal Building U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Rispoli:

Recommendation to include Public Participation in Technology Development and Deployment at DOE Sites.

The Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) Chairs commend the current pathway of DOE's Office of Groundwater, Soil and Remediation as presented by Dr. Larry Bailey at our fall SSAB Chairs meeting in Santa Fe. He discussed the Ten Year Plan, which focused on the development and deployment of technologies for addressing remediation of contaminants at our respective sites. The Chairs believe that through successful contracting and by broadening the scientific vision by integrating public participation there will be many opportunities to optimize investments with the development of new technologies to address monitoring programs, identification and cleanup of source material and remediation of contaminated groundwater across the complex. We are hopeful that this concerted effort will delineate new technology measures for remediation that are defendable when evaluated by independent review panels. Given the commitment to risk reduction, we expect that implementation of these technologies will be swift.

We wish, though, to identify some expectations and opportunities as the department moves forward in this effort. The Chairs would like to have a clear understanding of the mission of the Office of Engineering and Technology. Secondly, we recognize the importance of identifying and incorporating public values when evaluating potential technologies for deployment similar to the Site Technology Coordination Group (STCG) Programs,

The Chairs recommend that the Office of Engineering and Technology, in conjunction with DOE field sites, develop a public process such as the convening of forums at each site, for incorporation of these values at the front-end when evaluating future remedy selections. We invite this Office to participate at the next Chairs meeting in the spring of 2007 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Todd Martin, Chair Hanford Advisory Board

Bill Flanery, Co-Chair V Idaho National Laboratory Site EM Citizens' Advisory

Board

Richard L. Buxton, Co-Chair, Idaho National Laboratory Site EM

Citizens' Advisory Board

Kathleen Peterson, Chair Nevada Test Site Advisory

Board

J. D. Campbell, Chair Northern New Mexico

Citizens' Advisory Board

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Lance Mezga, Chair Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

Rhonda Smith, Chair Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Advisory Board

Thornoo ME Carry Smoth

Karen Patterson, Chair Savannah River Site Citizens' Advisory Board

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cc:

Dr. Lawrence Bailey, Director, Office of Groundwater and Soil Remediation
Mr. Doug Frost, DFO, EM-13
Ms. Melissa Nielson, EM-13
Todd Martin, Chair, Hanford
Bill Flannery, Co-Chair, Idaho
Richard L. Buxton, Co-Chair, Idaho
Kathleen Peterson, Chair, Nevada
J. D. Campbell, Chair, Northern New Mexico
Lance Mezga, Chair, Oak Ridge
Rhonda Smith, Chair, Paducah
Karen Patterson, Chair, Savannah